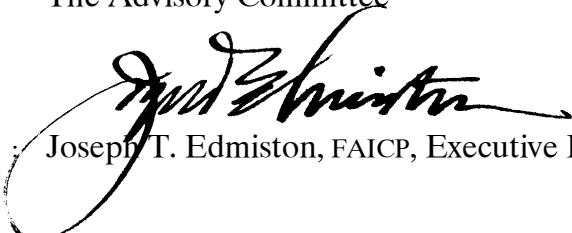


Memorandum

To : The Conservancy
The Advisory Committee

Date: May 22, 2006

From :  Joseph T. Edmiston, FAICP, Executive Director

Subject: **Agenda Item 13: Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant of Proposition 50 funds to the Social and Public Art Resource Center for the planning and development of “Revising the Forgotten History of Los Angeles: The Los Angeles River, the Great Wall of Los Angeles and the Heritage Parkscape” project.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Conservancy adopt the attached resolution authorizing a grant of Proposition 50 funds to the Social and Public Art Resource Center for the planning and development of “Revising the Forgotten History of Los Angeles River, the Great Wall of Los Angeles and the Heritage Parkscape” project.

Legislative Authority: Section 33204.2 of the Public Resources Code.

Background: The State of California has authorized expenditure of funds from the Water Security, Clean Drinking Water Coastal and Beach Protection Act of 2002 (Proposition 50) to the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy (SMMC), in Chapter 10, Sections 79570, shall be used for grants for the acquisition and development of facilities to promote public access to and participation in the conservation of land, water, and wildlife resources and 79571, wildlife viewing, outdoor experiences, and conservation education programs to the public and to students. Priority shall be given to projects that are operated by or in cooperation with nonprofit organizations and are designed to serve children from urban areas that lack access to natural areas and outdoor education programs.

Section 79508 of the Water Code requires the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy to implement the San Gabriel and Los Angeles River Watershed and Open Space Plan, commonly known as the Common Ground Plan. This project is consistent with the Common Ground Plan.

The project is located within the Upper Los Angeles River Watershed. The project area starts across from the Historic Great Wall Mural of Los Angeles within Tujunga Wash and spans South to El Pueblo de Los Angeles along the Los Angeles River. The project will be implemented and administered by Social and Public Art Resource Center (SPARC), a nonprofit organization, in cooperation with the University of California, Los Angeles and Center for Law in the Public Interest (CLIP). The project will serve children from urban areas that lack access to natural areas and outdoor education programs.

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The grant application from SPARC and CLIPI outlining the project is attached. The Conservancy funding is proposed for planning and development of several outdoor facilities along the Los Angeles River and Tujunga Wash. The outdoor facilities will include:(1) A new solar-lit interpretive bridge in the existing park in front of the Great Wall,(2) Interpretive stations along the Los Angeles River (3) Restoring of the historic Great Wall mural (4)Addition to the Great Wall's story incorporating the river's historic impact and place in the development of Los Angeles from 1960 to 1990.(5) Interpretive Stations Pilot Project linking the Great Wall, the Los Angeles River, and the Zanja Madre as part of the Heritage Parkscape.

SPARC has been awarded grants and matching funds from various funding sources for this project.